ÉCOLE KELOWNA SECONDARY SCHOOL

Whoo's News

Bi-Weekly Newsletter

Whoo's News November 6, 2026

Important Dates



The KSS Daily Calendar, including daily block schedules and school events, may be viewed via KSS Website: kss.sd23.bc.ca

- **Nov 8:** National Indigenous Veterans Day
- **Nov 9:** Sexual Health Education
- **Nov 10:** Staff/Student Remembrance Day Ceremony
- **Nov 10**: KSS PAC Zoom Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- **Nov 11: Remembrance Day. Schools are closed.**
- **Nov 12:** Sexual Health Education
- **Nov 13: Quarter 1 Ends.** Student Schedules will be published to MyEd Student Portal.
- **Nov 16: Quarter 2 Begins**
- **Nov 20:** Harmony Day
- **Nov 24:** COBSS Applications open (online) - see COBSS
- **Nov 24-25:** Post Secondary Prep #2 in LLC at lunch
- **Nov 25:** IH Student Wellness Clinics in MPR (a.m.)
- **Nov 26:** Cultural Performance - Andrew Allen
- **Nov 27: Student Written Learning Updates are published to MyEd Parent & Student Portals**
- **Dec 8:** KSS Music Concerts in the gym
- **Dec 9:** IH Student Wellness Clinics in MPR (a.m.)
- **Dec 15:** Jazz Combo Evening in the gym
- **Dec 16: Homeroom:** Locker clean-out & Student Photo ID
- **Dec 17:** Grad Winter Formal
- **Dec 18: LAST DAY before Winter Break :)**

2026-2027 KSS Yearly Calendar

Principal's Message

Dear Owl Families,

As we move towards the end of Quarter 1, our first Written Learning Updates are about a month away. This is an important time for students to know how they are doing in each class, what learning they still need to demonstrate, and what they can do to improve. We encourage students to check in with their teachers about what is going well and where they may need support. Connecting now gives us time to work together on next steps before the written updates arrive.

November also brings darker mornings. Please take extra care when travelling to school, whether walking, cycling, or driving. Staying visible, slowing down, and watching carefully at crossings and around the school all help keep our community safe.

Next week, on Remembrance Day, we pause to honour those who have served and those who continue to serve. We remember those who lost their lives and hold in our thoughts the families and communities who carry that loss. Lest we forget.

With Owl pride,
Nina Ferguson

Student Attendance, Lates and Early Dismissals

STUDENT ATTENDANCE
At KSS, students are expected to attend each class. We know there are times when students need to miss class, arrive late, or leave early. When that happens, please use **SchoolMessenger SafeArrival** to let us know. This helps us keep students safe and accounted for. Written notes cannot be used to excuse an absence, sign a student out, or authorize an early departure.

Parents and guardians can report an absence, late arrival, or early departure in three ways.

1. Use the **SchoolMessenger app**, the easiest option for most families.
2. Use the online parent portal at go.schoolmessenger.ca.
3. Call the school at **250-870-5105**, press **1**, and follow the prompts.

Parents will receive an attendance call if their student has an unauthorized absence. **The message will always state the absence was in the afternoon.** Unfortunately, this message is auto populated by Safe Arrival and we are not able to change it at the school level. Please contact the teachers if you need clarification of which block(s) your student has missed.

LATE ARRIVAL
Students who arrive **more than 30 minutes late** for class must check in at the **office** before going to class. Office staff will record their arrival time. Once the student arrives in class, the teacher will update our attendance record from absent to late.

If the late arrival is excused, please report it in SafeArrival. If you have a question about an absence or late mark, please contact the classroom teacher.

EARLY DEPARTURE
If your child needs to leave early, please report the departure time in SafeArrival. The teacher will see it in MyEd and release your child at the time you've requested.

If an excused departure isn't recorded in MyEd, the teacher will send your child to the office. Office staff will contact a parent or guardian for approval, which may take a little extra time. If the office is unable to confirm approval, your child will return to class.

TEAM ATTENDANCE
Coaches will report team absences to the office. Before missing class for a team activity, students are expected to have the teachers of the classes they'll miss complete a **Student Authorized Absence Form**. Students then show the form to their coach and keep it so they can refer to the schoolwork listed on it.

Thank you for using SafeArrival and helping us keep all students safe and accounted for.

Student Photos & ID Cards

Student photo orders are online only through Artona - please see their website HERE. All students that had a photo taken will receive a free Student ID Card. ***Please see the office if you do not have your Student ID Card.*** Questions/concerns may be directed to Artona at 1-800-668-3866.

Verifying Student Information



Parents/Guardians now have the ability to verify their student's demographics through the MyEd Parent Portal. We no longer send home hard copy Student Information Verification Forms.

Parents are asked to verify their student's profile to ensure that the school has the most up-to-date information on file. NOTE: Change of address, custody/legal or medical changes require updated documentation before the office will update this information. These items may be brought to the main office or emailed to: kss@sd23.bc.ca.

Please see Instructions below.
VERIFY INSTRUCTIONS
PARENT PORTAL INSTRUCTIONS

For password resets, please call the office at 250-870-5105, extension 0.

Helpful Links

SCHOOL MESSENGER LINK - ENTER ABENCES/LATES/EARLY DEPARTURES HERE

KSS Clubs

Bell Schedules

KSS Administration & Support

School Cash Online - Pay Student Fees Here

KSS Code of Conduct

Graduation News: Class of 2027

GRAD 2027 CLOTHING!

Your first drop of grad clothing is live! Please your orders before November 8th.
Order HERE.

GRAD FEE

All Grade 12 students have a non-refundable **grad fee of $60.00** attached in School Cash Online. The fee covers cap, gown and stole, rental & decoration of the venue and security. This $60.00 commencement fee, as well as any other fees, must be paid in order to purchase tickets to winter formal, grad banquet as well as to pick up grad gowns. **Don't delay!** Pay now to avoid line-ups later! Pay via School Cash Online or to Accounts in the office.

Please ensure that your child joins the Grad 2027 Information Google Classroom. This is where all important news for grade 12s can be found. Code: **k6qd3ks**



Prom Information: Class of 2027

Upcoming Prom Fundraisers

KSS Parent Prom committee is excited to partner with
Red Robin Canada this year to help raise funds to help lower the student ticket cost for the 2027 Kelowna Senior Secondary Prom & Banquet.
KSS has the largest graduating class in the Okanagan, 687 students!

ENJOY SOME YUMMM®. HELP US RAISE SOME FUNDS!
Monday, November 16th to Sunday, November 22nd
Tell your server that you are supporting **KSS Prom** & Red Robin will give **20%** of Dine-in and Pick-Up food sales back to KSS Prom.



LET'S RAISE SOME CHEDDAR!

Questions? Email: ksspromcommittee@gmail.com

Minimum $200 in eligible net sales is required to receive any donation of event sales, which on average is 15 supporters. The 20% back is calculated before tax and gratuity. Liquor and gift card sales are also excluded.

🍔❤ **BIG RED ROBIN NEWS, KSS!** ❤🍔
LET'S MAKE PROM 2027 MORE AFFORDABLE! The KSS Parent Prom Committee is thrilled to partner with **Red Robin Canada** to help raise funds and bring down ticket costs for the **2027 Kelowna Senior Secondary Prom & Banquet!**
With the **Okanagan's LARGEST graduating class — 687 students strong!** — every dollar makes a difference!
LET'S GET LOUD. LET'S GIVE BACK. LET'S MAKE PROM UNFORGETTABLE!
Save the date: Nov 16-22, see poster for details on how YOU can help! 👀 Every burger. Every bite. Every bit of support counts!

One-and-Done
We are accepting general donations that can be made specifically towards prom. KSS PAC will not ask you to volunteer BUT we still need your help! Please consider making a donation through our **ONE-AND-DONE** Fundraiser. Information about how to donate can be found in the attached letter.

PDF **Donation letter.pdf** Download 86.0 KB



Career and Counselling Centre News

SAT Writing

Students may have the opportunity to write an SAT exam at KSS. Please see the Career Centre for more details and to register.

Upcoming Post-Secondary Institution Visits

November 12- Dalhousie University in the MPR
November 19- Strengthening Connections Indigenous Recruitment Tour location TBA
November 24- UBC Recruiter in the KSS Library

OC Advising Appointments

Okanagan College Advising Appointments in the KSS MPR on November 13, 2026. Please register for a timeslot HERE.

Career Centre Opportunities

How to get 30 hrs POSTER.pdf

Download
110.1 KB

GO Eng Girl: Environmental Engineering and Sustainable Engineering

Join other girls at GO Eng on Nov. 24th OR December 1st for a day to explore engineering opportunities at UBCO with UBC Geering Up. Please visit Mrs. Bowers in the Career Centre by Nov. 17th.





KSS Athletics

Owl's Football:

Come out to support the KSS Football Team! Bring the black and gold! **Fri, Nov 6 @ 7:30pm** KSS vs Rutland - at Rosewood Sports Field (Mar Jok).

Sr Girls Volleyball:

Sr Girls take GOLD at the Howler!



Jr Boys Volleyball:

Congratulations to Nik, Owen, Bas, Etienne, Jeremy, Nathan, Connor, Chase, Theo, and Oliver!



KSS OWLS Winter Season Sports Tryouts LINK

KSS OWLS Athletics Webpage

KSS Library Learning Commons (LLC)



KSS PAC

ONE-AND-DONE

KSS PAC will not ask you to volunteer BUT we still need your help! Please consider making a donation through our ONE-AND-DONE Fundraiser. Please see link below for more information and details:

ONE-AND-DONE



Community News

Civic Awards

Young Citizen of the Year!

Do you know a young person who has made a real difference in your school or community in 2026?

The Youth Citizen of the Year Award recognizes outstanding youth who are creating positive change through volunteerism, community leadership, or a commitment to tackling important social issues.

Whether they're organizing initiatives, supporting local causes, advocating for others, or inspiring their peers to get involved, these young leaders are helping build a stronger, more connected Kelowna.

Nominations are now open for the City of Kelowna's 52nd Annual Civic & Community Awards. As part of this award, 2 finalists will receive a $1,000 and the recipient will receive a $2,000 to support their education, a community project, or an entrepreneurial pursuit.

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN! and they close January 25th.

More information and nomination forms are found here: [Civic & Community Awards | City of Kelowna]

TEEN HONOR IN THE ARTS!

Do you know a talented young artist who has set the stage in 2026, through their creativity, performance, and artistic excellence?

The Teen Honor in the Arts Award celebrates youth who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in the visual, literary, performing, or media arts. From musicians, actors, dancers, and filmmakers to writers, painters, behind the scenes artists, and emerging creatives, this award recognizes young people who enrich our community through their artistic talents.

Nominations are now open for the City of Kelowna's 52nd Annual Civic & Community Awards. Everything from performing on stage, exhibiting their work, contributing to cultural programs, or inspiring others through the arts, these exceptional youth deserve to be recognized for their contributions to Kelowna's vibrant arts community.

As part of this award, the winner of this award will receive a $500 scholarship to UBC-O's Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies.

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN! and they close January 25th.

More information and nomination forms are found here: [Civic & Community Awards | City of Kelowna]

PDF **CARE 27 Mentor Poster SD23.pdf** Download 2.4 MB



École Kelowna Secondary School
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